



MACHYNLLETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
(Including PENNAL Civil Parish)

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH
(Including Sanitary Inspector's Report)

for the

Y E A R
ended

31st DECEMBER, 1940.

MEDICAL OFFICER :-

J. C. ASHTON, M.B., Ch.B.,
"Bronwylfa"
Machynlleth.

SANITARY INSPECTOR :-

EDWARD MILLS,
35A, Pentrerhedyn Street,
Machynlleth.
(Commenced duties 1/11/1940)

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RURAL DISTRICT of MACHYNLLETH.
(Including PENNAL Civil Parish)

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH
(Including the Sanitary Inspector's Report)
for the Year ended
31st DECEMBER, 1940.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Machynlleth Rural Area for the year ended 31st December, 1940 :-

SECTION "A"

Vital Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	96,376
Estimated Population	...	Rural District	1939	3,230	3,287
				Decrease	...	57	
		Pennal C.P.	1939	370	345
				Increase	...	25	
Rateable Value	...	Rural District	£7,070	
		Product of a Penny Rate	£28	
		Pennal C.P.	£1,037	
		Product of a Penny Rate	£4	

There has been no change in social conditions since the previous Report, and no new industries have been established.

RURAL DISTRICT -

<u>Live Births</u>	(Legitimate	Males 20;	Females 11;	Total	31
	(Illegitimate	" 2;	" 3;	"	5
	TOTAL	" 22;	" 14;	"	36
<u>Still Births</u>	(Legitimate	Males 2;	Females 1	Total	3
	(Illegitimate	" -	" -	"	-
	TOTAL	" 2	" 1	"	3

Birth Rate { Live Births) per 1,000 estimated population ... 8.95
(Still Births) per 1,000 of children born ...

PENNAL C.P. -

<u>Live Births</u>	(Legitimate	Males 2;	Females 4	Total	6
	(Illegitimate	" 1;	" -	"	1
	TOTAL	" 3;	" 4	"	7
<u>Still Births</u>	None.				

Birth Rate (Live Births) per 1,000 estimated population ... 15.93

RURAL DISTRICT -

<u>Deaths.</u>	Males 17.	Females 32.	Total	49
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.68

PENNAL C.P. -

<u>Deaths.</u>	Males 3.	Females 7.	Total	10
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	21.33

SECRET

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DEATHS of Infants under One Year of age :-

RURAL DISTRICT - Males 1. Females 2. Total 3.

Rate per 1,000 of live births ... 83.3

Note - These 3 deaths were due to conditions attending birth.

PENNAL C.P. - Males 3. Females - Total 3.

Rate per 1,000 of live births ... 428

Note - One of these deaths due to conditions attending birth.

By far the greatest number of deaths took place again this year among men and women over 65 years of age, and they died of diseases associated with advancing years, e.g.

	<u>Rural District.</u>	<u>Pennal C.P.</u>
Diseases of Heart & circulation.	16	2
Brain conditions.	7	1
Cancer of all kinds.	5	2
Bronchitis.	3	-

Violence and indefinable causes accounted for 5 deaths in the Rural District and 1 in Pennal R.D.

There was an unusual number of deaths of infants at birth - 3 in the Rural District and 3 in Pennal C.P. Such a large number affects the death rate considerably and makes the rate per 1,000 look very high. It should, of course, be borne in mind that neither births, deaths nor illegitimacy would ever reach 1,000 in any one year.

Causes of Death.	<u>Rural District.</u>			<u>Pennal C.P.</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Influenza.	1	-	1	-	-	-
Cancer.	2	3	5	-	2	2
Diabetes.	-	1	1	-	1	1
Cerebral conditions.	1	6	7	-	1	1
Heart & circulation.	7	9	16	-	2	2
Bronchitis.	-	3	3	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	2	-	2	1	-	1
Nephritis.	1	2	3	-	-	-
Congenital.	1	2	3	1	-	1
Violence & other causes.	-	5	5	1	-	1
	17	32	49	3	7	10

There were no deaths of children from whooping cough and diarrhoea. No cases of puerperal pyrexia or fever were reported.

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS</u> -	One Medical Officer (part time). One Sanitary Inspector (whole time). (Names & particulars given on front page).
<u>LABORATORY FACILITIES</u> -	The Ministry of Health Laboratory, Llanbadarn Road, Aberystwyth.
<u>AMBULANCE FACILITIES</u> -	No change since 1939.
<u>NURSING in the HOME</u> -	Five District Nurses employed by Voluntary organisations.
<u>HOSPITALS</u> - General -	Machynlleth Corris & District Hospital (Voluntary) (12 beds)
Maternity	Do. 3 single separated wards.
Tuberculosis	King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Machynlleth.

(Section 'B' - Cont'd) -

- INFANT WELFARE CLINICS - Supervised by the Medical Officer of Health for the County of Montgomery.
- ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT - The Agnes Hunt Hospital, Gobowen.
- ISOLATION - Arrangements with the Salop County Hospital (60 miles away). Patients admitted by consent of the Medical Officer of Health for the County of Montgomery.
- REGIONALISATION - Probably in Liverpool Area, Sub-Group Chester; including Counties of North Wales & Chester.

SECTION "C"

Sanitary Conditions of the Area.

SANITARY INSPECTOR -

In November a full time Sanitary Inspector commenced duties and he set out to make a thorough inspection of housing conditions. (The Sanitary Inspector's Report is included in this Report).

WATER SUPPLIES -

Water Supplies are satisfactory in quantity and quality, and every effort is made to maintain these in a clean condition and periodical examination of the supplies show that the water is fit for human consumption. Winter frosts did considerable damage to pipes and certain villages suffered from scanty supplies for considerable periods because of the scarcity of skilled plumbers. Steps were taken to increase the supply of water for Pennal.

The Water Supplies under the control of the Council were inspected and kept under observation throughout the year.

REFUSE REMOVAL -

House Refuse is removed by carting in the various villages and deposited at remote distances from habitations. In Llanbrynmair District no applications to cart refuse away have been received for 3 years.

PUBLIC CLEANSING -

There has been no change in the practice adopted during 1939.

CESSPOOLS -

Closet accommodation in general is of the dry variety. In the villages where the water supply is sufficient some of the houses are fitted with Water Closets which are connected to a cesspit placed at approved distances from the dwellinghouses. These are cleaned out periodically by the Owners.

RIVERS and STREAMS -

There is no evidence that measures are necessary to check pollution.

SHOPS and OFFICES -

Small and one man owned.

SEWERAGE and DRAINAGE -

One new drainage system was constructed during the year. This was built by private enterprise.

SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA -

Total number of inspections 74

SLAUGHTERHOUSES -

All animals are slaughtered in the Urban Area.

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 3, 1862. It is a very important document, as it contains the President's annual message to Congress. The letter is written in a very formal and dignified style, and it is one of the most important documents in the history of the United States.

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(Section 'C' - Cont'd) -

DAIRIES and COWSHEDS -

Number of New Dairies	1
Number of New Cowsheds	3
Number of Persons registered	3
Number of registered places in use and inspected	20
Total number of Inspections made	20

CLERICAL WORK -

Number of Informal Notices served	2
Number of Informal Notices complied with	2

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS - None.

NUISANCES -

Number of Inspections made	10
Number of Informal Notices served	-
Number of Informal Notices complied with	-

FACTORIES WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES -

Factories - No factories exist in the Area.

<u>Workshops</u> - Number of Inspections made	2
Number of Notices served	-

CAMPING SITES -

There are no sites in the Area which are used for Camping purposes.

SCHOOLS -

Number of Inspections made	1..	6
Number of Informal Notices served	-

SWIMMING BATHS and POOLS - None

BED BUGS - One case dealt with.

SECTION "D"

Housing

Number of dwellinghouses inspected	68
Number of Inspections made for the purpose	68
Number of dwellinghouses inspected and found to be in all respects unfit for human habitation	6
Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	27
Number of dwellinghouses found to be overcrowded	2

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices -

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	2
Total number of visits made re same	3

Action under Statutory Powers during the year -

(a) Proceedings under Ss 9,10,& 16 of Housing Act, 1936 -

Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-						
(i) by Owners	2
(ii) by Local Authority
Number of Certificates granted under Section 51(3)

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896

1897

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

(Section 'D' - Cont'd) -

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts -

Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring demolition	1
Number of dwellinghouses which were demolished after service of formal notice :-						
(i) by Owners	1
(ii) by Local Authority	-

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of Housing Act, 1936 -

None.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 -

None.

(e) Proceedings under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926 -

None.

SECTION "E"

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY -

During the year 3 new Dairies were registered. Most of the cowsheds and dairies were found defective on inspection, but were remedied on the service of informal notices. Each dairyman was interviewed and instructed in the production of clean milk. It is pleasing to report that producers of milk are falling into line with greater readiness than used to be the case some years ago.

ADULTERATION -

The County Council is the Authority responsible for the collection of samples under the Food & Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

MEAT and OTHER FOODS -

The matter of Meat and other Food is being dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector of the Urban District Council of Machynlleth.

SECTION "C"

Prevalence of and control over Infectious & Other Diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES -

During the year 4 cases of Diphtheria and 15 cases of Measles were notified in the Rural Area; and 2 cases of Pneumonia (both of whom died) and 2 cases of Measles were notified in Pennal C.P. Several Swabs were submitted to the new Pathological Laboratory opened by the Ministry of Health at Aberystwyth. In every case submitted to them for examination, the result, if positive, was communicated to me within 24 hours after the despatch of the swab, as compared with 48 hours which usually elapsed before getting results when swabs were sent to Manchester.

TUBERCULOSIS.

It is regrettable that this year the Rural District failed to keep up its proud position of Nil deaths from Tuberculosis. There were two such deaths but one of these was notified within a few weeks after coming to live here, and must have been infected before he came.

Pennal also lost its record of 10 years without a death from Tuberculosis. But the deceased person was 77 years of age and had suffered from Bronchitis for many years. Such cases afford no criterion of the extent of the disease.

(Section 'C' - Cont'd) -

Tuberculosis (Cont'd) -

Table of New Cases & Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - ...	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
55 - ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS ...	2	2	1	-	1	1	-	1

I remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. C. ASHTON.

MACHYNLETH,
November, 1940.

